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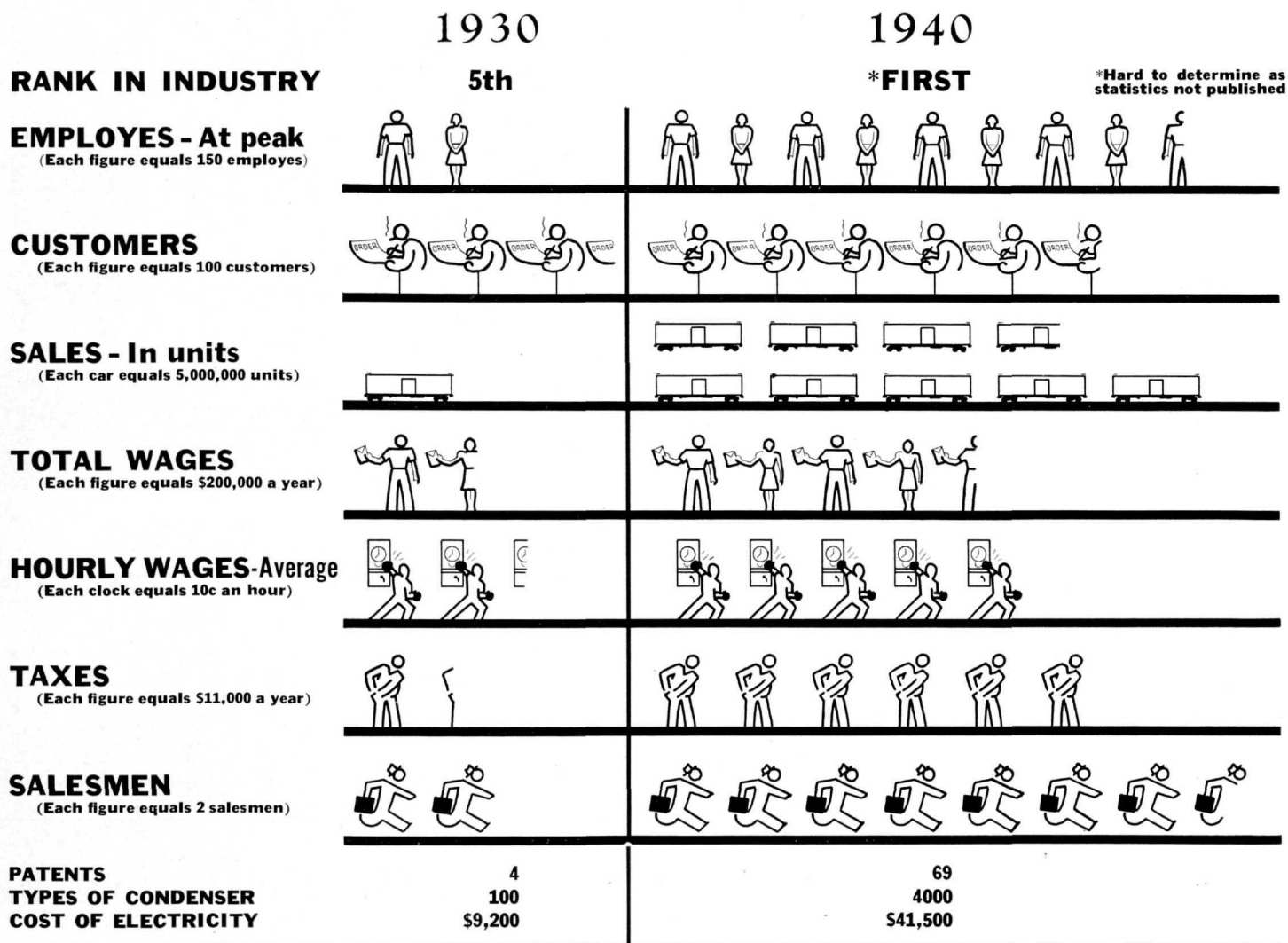
Published by Sprague Specialties Company.

Tenth
Anniversary
in
North Adams

VOL. II

MARCH, 1940

NO. 4



Ten Years of Sprague Progress

(Here is the life story of the Sprague Specialties Company up to now. Without conceit we can be proud of it, not only because it is our Company, but because it is the story of an American business.)



ALTHOUGH Sprague Specialties Company is regarded today as one of the world's leading manufacturers of radio condensers, it is an interesting fact that the product we originally started manufacturing was unsuccessful from a financial standpoint. The design of a condenser, only incidental to the manufacture of this unprofitable product (a Tone Control that radio listeners used to plug in between their loud speaker and their radio set) served as the stepping stone to our present business.

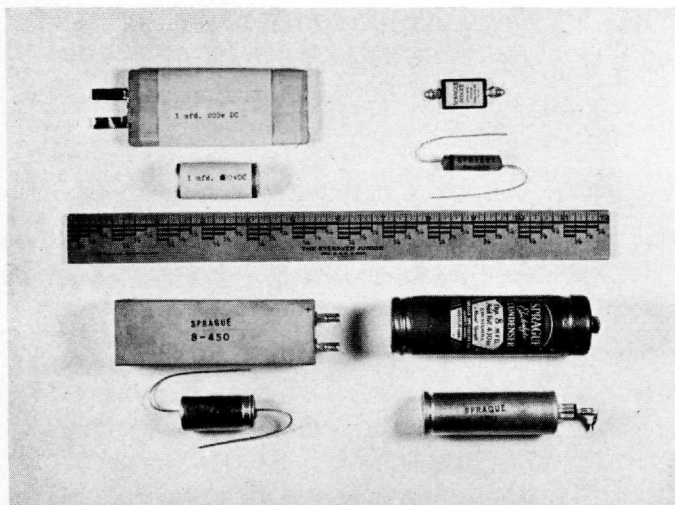
The development of our Tone Control required a special tapped condenser not then available on the market. We therefore, contracted with a condenser company to make these tapped condensers for us. Much to our disappointment the contracting company fell down on the

job and we were forced to try to make this special condenser ourselves.

Progress — Out of Failure

The failure of the Tone Control as a money-making venture gave us time to consider the possibilities of the special condenser that we had manufactured. What happened was that we soon developed a small fixed paper condenser known as the "Sprague Midget", which we first began to sell in January 1927. Almost from the start, Sprague "Midget" condensers received an enthusiastic reception and we soon went into the manufacture of many variations of the "Midget" with single and double units and special mountings. Within three years the sales of

(Continued on page 2)



Ten years of progress is dramatically shown in the above photograph which includes several of our latest models contrasted with several of our early units made in 1930.

The primary requirement for our products is a smaller, more efficient unit. Can you pick out the four 1940 products?

(Continued from Page 2)

our Company had increased from zero to over one-half of a million dollars.

The earliest history of Sprague Specialties is necessarily pretty much the story of Mr. R. C. Sprague. He had graduated in 1920 from Annapolis, spent a year at sea, studied at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and had been stationed at the Fore River Plant, Quincy. At home Mr. Sprague began experimenting with various radio devices including his Tone Control, and with his own money and his friends' money, a small manufacturing company was organized in Quincy, and there were many nights during those months when the midnight oil was freely burned. Mrs. Sprague helped with mailing small orders, handled telephone calls, and studied typing to assist with the Company's correspondence. Miss Avery, also one of the charter members of the Company, did her typing on the Sprague dining room table.

It was not long before the Company had outgrown its original cramped quarters. Mr. Sprague resigned his commission in the Navy to take charge of the business. Julian Sprague joined the Company to supervise manufacturing, and Harry Kalker came in as the New York City salesman along with S. B. Darmstadter, covering Chicago. In 1929, Carleton Shugg joined the Company as Factory Manager, and a little later Preston Robinson, as Chief Engineer.

Organize Engineering Department

It was in 1929 with the radio and other business booming, that we decided to make electrolytic condensers and brought in a complete engineering staff under Dr. Robinson, which immediately set about developing condensers of fundamentally new design that would be better and cheaper. These were our first wet electrolytic condensers.

Why We Came to North Adams

Having completely outgrown our Quincy quarters we began an active search for a new location. Sites were considered in Middleboro, Lawrence, Lowell and North Adams. Due to our record of rapid growth (and probably because it was 1929), we received offers of various types of cooperation from several of these cities. After most careful consideration of all factors, including location, factory buildings, availability of ample skilled labor,



They were here then — Sprague employees who came with us from Quincy ten years ago. **Front row, left to right:** Ernie Purpura, Jerry Steinberg, Sam Troia and Rus Comeau. **Middle row, left to right:** Fred McNamara, Mary Comeau, Nettie Angeli, Molly Avery, Mary Troia, and Anna Cronin. **Back row, left to right:** Walter Clark, Joe Fitzgerald, Lars Andersen, Rod MacAlpine, Margaret Anderson, Henry Anderson and Lewis Cronin. Absent at the time this picture was taken were Rosario Troia and Rita Windover.

electric power, transportation, etc., our present factory in North Adams was selected. An additional influencing factor was that Mr. Sprague's father, Mr. Frank J. Sprague, who had become a well known inventor, had lived as a boy in North Adams.

We rapidly began the development of new products and started manufacture in North Adams in the Spring of 1930. We took out a license from the P. R. Mallory Company of Indianapolis, to make dry electrolytics under the patents of Samuel Ruben. We were the first Mallory licensee.

Home Talkies a Flop

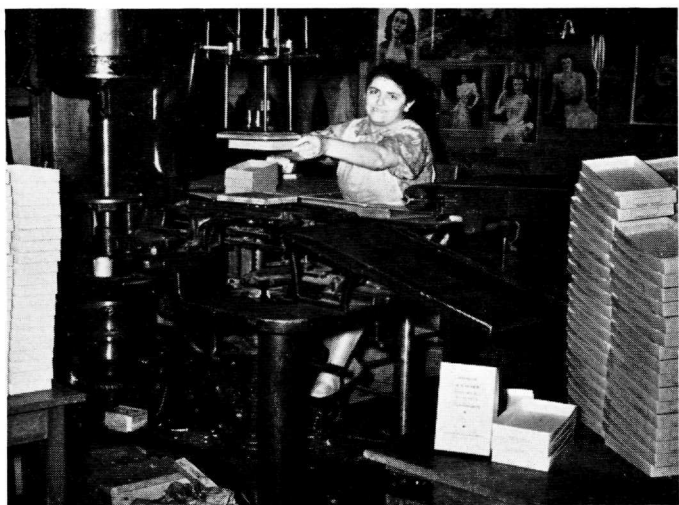
Shortly after the introduction and sensational success of the talking and singing pictures in which Al Jolson first appeared, we decided to try to capitalize what seemed a wonderful business opportunity. This was our introduction of a home talking picture machine. A considerable sum of money was spent in the machine's development and the model we brought out was good from an operating standpoint. Unfortunately for us, however, the market was apparently not ready for this type of product. An additional and vital difficulty was that the jobbers and film distributors were unable to work out at that time a system for film distribution to the home talking picture machine owners. Although we sold a number of machines, the project never worked out and many machines were returned to us.

The End of Our History — Almost

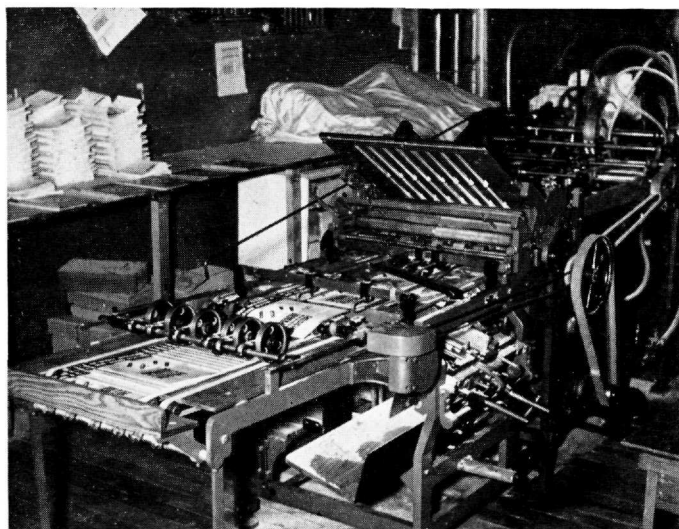
The combination of the failure of the home talking machine and the continued decline of business, as well as the cost of moving from Quincy, proved to be pretty nearly a knock-out blow. Management controls, initially satisfactory on more limited operations, proved inadequate and the business got out of hand. We could not pay our debts — either to the banks or to the trade — something had to be done.

A moratorium, and later a refunding plan, were worked out and we were enabled to continue operations through the cooperation of our banks and creditors. Mr. G. B. Flood came with us as Treasurer, and also at that time representing our creditors. Their confidence in us meant the difference between continued operations and liquidation. We are proud to say that all these debts were retired and paid off by November 1937.

(Continued on page 4)



Sprague has meant more business for the E. A. McMillan Company, established in 1884, and one of the oldest concerns in North Adams. From this plant have come many original developments in the field of paper box manufacturing. Sprague buys most of its especially designed boxes from them. Photograph shows an operator at an automatic wrapping machine which covers the cardboard shell.



A folding machine at the Excelsior Printing Company from whom Sprague buys much of its printed material such as stationery supplies, labels, catalogs, etc.



James H. Vawter.

NORTH ADAMS, WE ARE HERE!

In its issue of October 3, 1929, announcing the decision of Sprague Specialties Company in selecting North Adams for its location in preference to several competing towns, the North Adams Transcript described the event as "What promises to be the most important new industrial development North Adams has seen in a generation."

Wisely, perhaps, the management of the Company had refrained from making broad predictions or promises on how the business might develop, but it is interesting to review some of the statements of our local newspaper at that time — keeping in mind particularly, that the country as a whole, was in the midst of the last wild month of the greatest stock market and business boom in its history.

The hope that the new Company would "eventually give employment to at least 1,000 people," we are proud to say, has already been more than fulfilled, although that prediction viewed in the cold gray dawn of the depression might have seemed somewhat excessive.

"North Adams, in fact, has been in the keenest competition with such other Massachusetts cities as Lowell and Holyoke to convince the younger Spragues that it would be to their advantage to locate here," said the Transcript. Full credit for bringing the Company to its present location was awarded to the Chamber of Commerce, the North Adams Industrial Company and the North Adams Credit Guarantee Association. A lengthy article on the second page of the Transcript told the life story of Mr. Sprague's father. Biographies of various officers of the Company and statements by various North Adams business men, occupied almost the entire second page.

DO YOU KNOW THAT . . .

Edward Neally, former Personnel Manager, is now with the Firestone Plantation Company in West Africa?

* * *

Daniel Foster is now with the Fore River Shipbuilding Co. of Quincy?

* * *

Frank Dunleavy is now with Magnavox Corp. of Fort Wayne, Indiana?

* * *

Harvey Cooper, former Asst. Paymaster, is with Robbins, Gamwell Corp. of Pittsfield?

* * *

Harry Buckle, former Receiving Clerk, is with the Post Office Dept. of Beverly?

* * *

Herbert Riddle is with the Fiberloid Plant of the Monsanto Company, Springfield?

* * *

William Cosetta is with the Tobe Deutschman Company of Canton, Massachusetts?

* * *

J. Sheehan, formerly of the Machine Shop, is at the Charlestown Navy Yard?

* * *

Jerry DiBona was last heard of from Quincy?

* * *

William Littlewood is at the Fore River Yard at Quincy?

* * *

William Bachli is with the General Electric Company of Pittsfield?

* * *

Ralph Damon is located in Montague City, Massachusetts?

* * *

Oscar Helig is with the Munson Wollen Co. of Munson, Mass.?

JAMES H. VAWTER

A new Sprague representative is James H. Vawter, who will represent our products in upper New York State. His experience, he admits, varies all the way from paper hanger to sales manager and secretary and treasurer.

Vawter is a descendant of an old Indiana family that migrated from Virginia in 1806. His father was a general storekeeper. At 14, Vawter began his business career, earning \$1.50 a week, working with a team of mules. This was the start of a career that has included selling newspapers, tractors, microphones, hardware, automobiles, drugs, vacuum cleaners, cameras, generators, magnetos, vibrators, radio tubes and ignition systems.

Besides this he has found time to work as a cook, waiter, baker, plumber, teacher, engineer, advertising manager, assistant sales manager and sales manager. His war record includes membership in the Infantry Officers Training Camp and the Motor Equipment Section of the Ordnance Department. Vawter is not unfamiliar with companies like Sprague that have an extensive line of products. He once compiled a 782 page catalog for American Bosch Magneto.

His one trip to Europe, he tells us, was enough to convince him that the way we do things in America is unequalled in any other spot on the globe.

(Continued from page 2)

The development of other new products continued with the introduction of D.C. drys in September 1931, paper tubulars in 1932, and A.C. drys in 1933. In July of 1933 Harry Kalker set up a Massachusetts corporation, Sprague Products Company, to distribute our condensers to jobbers and retail trade. In 1935 we began the sale of trimmers and KVA's. The moulded micas, since discontinued along with certain trimmers, began in July 1936, tuners and silver micas Nov. 1937, liquid compensators Dec. 1938, and last year in June we started the sale of our new type resistors.

"WE'RE GLAD WE CAME," Says Sprague —

Told of Sprague Specialties Company 10th anniversary in North Adams, Dr. Francis J. O'Hara, our city's mayor, declared —

"It gives me great happiness and sincere pleasure to congratulate the Sprague Specialties Company on this, their tenth anniversary. Their coming to North Adams was a welcomed event in the industrial life of our city and their steady growth has brought employment to many, thereby lightening the load and brightening the way of the worker."

Needless to say, Sprague Specialties is equally happy in its location and associations here in the city. The Company is also proud of the part it has had in the business life of the community. The Sprague payroll has doubtless found its way to almost all the business and professional groups in the city. It is interesting also to list the more than 80 North Adams suppliers who found Sprague Specialties a good customer in 1939.

We are proud to list the following suppliers whose services or goods helped our success in 1939, and who shared in approximately \$100,000 of the \$1,000,000 income brought to North Adams by the sale of Sprague Condensers last year.

North Adams Suppliers — 1939

Armour & Company	Aldo J. Leonesio
Auto Replacement Parts Co.	Lev Hardware Co.
Eugene H. Babcock	Little Frank Auto Store
Gilbert A. Booth	A. J. Maxymillian, Inc.
Boston & Albany Railroad	Model Laundering Company
Boston & Maine Railroad	Mohawk Glass Company
Boston Store	Mohawk Garage (Agent for Colonial Beacon Oil)
J. Brackley & Sons	M. J. Monahan
Brewer Brothers, Inc.	Raymond Morey
Burlingame & Darbys Co.	E. A. McMillin Company
James F. Burns	New Eng. Tel. & Tel. Co.
Frank Bushika	Noel, Inc.
Carlow's Service Station	N. Adams Flour & Grain Co.
Cascade Paper Company	N. Adams Wholesale Co.
Chad Signs	N. Berkshire Gas Co.
City Scales	Herbert A. Orr
City of North Adams	Parker Motor Sales
City Taxi	Payne-Cummings Hardware
Costine's Electrical Store	Pharmer's Electrical Store
Frederick E. Crosier	Plankey's Service Station
C. H. Cutting & Co.	Porter & Hadfield Co.
Charles Day	Postal Tel. Cable Co.
Frank C. DeFalco	Provencher's Jewelry Store
S. B. Dibble Lumber Co.	Quinn's
Economy Print	Railway Express Agency
Elder's Minute Man Printing Co.	Redfield Norcross Co.
Ensign & Smith Coal Co.	Richmond Wellington Hotel
Excelsior Printing Company	W. G. Roberts Co.
Edwin A. French & Co.	Rosasco's Agency
Harvey A. Gallup Agency	Sanford's Studio
J. Gamache & Son	Sears Roebuck & Co.
O. W. Gavett	Season's Refrigeration Service
Geddes & Crippen	A. Shapiro & Sons
Jack Goldberg	A. Shapiro Scrap Iron
Goodrich Silvertown Stores	Smith-Donovan, Inc.
Walter A. Graves	Socony Vacuum Oil Co.
James R. Harrington	Texas Company
William C. Harvey	Wm. N. Tuller, C. E.
James Hunter Machine Co.	U. S. Post Office
Chris Keating	Western Union Tel. Cable
Kwaltee Gift Shop	Windsor Print Works
Leo J. Lamore	Ashley A. Wood
Leavens Jewelry Store	

DO YOU REMEMBER

When the dispensary was across the road?
 When the stock room was where the Sample Dept. is now?
 When the Drys started production with five employees working in the hall near the Lab?
 When we used to work all day Saturday?
 When all rolling in the Drys was done by hand and the girls calling for "soup"?

So here we are.

Experience seems to indicate that the ability to come through business and financial difficulties is a good sign of a Company's basic soundness. History, on the other hand, shows plenty of examples of companies that climaxed a rapid expansion by an equally rapid decline. But as long as we can keep our vitality and adaptability to changing conditions, we should keep growing. A new industry, new ideas and steady drive all the way through our organization have all combined to establish a new business here in North Adams.

"WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE," Says North Adams



Establishment of Sprague Specialties Company in North Adams meant more business for the railroad here. Shown above is an east-bound train, electric engines attached, ready to leave North Adams station for a trip through the famous Hoosac Tunnel. From this terminal hundreds of thousands of Sprague Condensers are shipped out by the Boston & Maine, the Boston & Albany, and American Railway Express, beginning their journey to distant points all over the world.



He congratulates Sprague Specialties on its first ten years in North Adams. The LOG'S own photograph of Dr. Francis J. O'Hara, Mayor of North Adams.

HOBBIES

Walter Wood is raising fish. (Some say it's to study their habits before the coming fishing season.) * * *

Larry Burt, our curly-headed radio man, is the only one of the Maintenance gang who spends much of his time with the short waves (of his radio, not his hair). He operates an active station and can be heard most any evening. His call letters are W.I.J.A.D. * * *

Clarence Sweeney has joined the "Model Locomotive Club" in Pittsfield. * * *

Other devotees to the raising of tropical fish, besides Ken Russell, are Clarence Ryan, John Mattimore, Norman Bourdon, Ray Bishop, Lewis Cronin and Walter Wood.



Snapped about ten years ago is this photograph of the Wet Assembly Department. **Front row, left to right:** Emma Falcon, Billy Falcon, Rita Styczynski, Florence LeCuyer, Angie Hobart, Lena Simonelli, Della Keating, Delbert Toelken, Florence Bernardo, Leo Lemoine, Evelyn Boulger, John McConnell, Lottie Miller and Mary Daniels. **Second row,** Joe DeGrenier, Wally Jones, Linda Dufraine, Betty Fleury, Mary Mondia. **Back row,** Dominick Spagnolo, Henry Senecal and Max Deso.

MINSTREL SHOW TO BE APRIL 4 and 5

The annual minstrel show is to be produced in Drury High School the evenings of April 4th and 5th. This year's production promises to be bigger and better than ever. Over fifty have turned out for rehearsals and everyone has worked hard to make it a success.

The End Men will be "Bus" Carpenter, "Bren" Farley, Paul Urbano, Jimmy Crews, Jerry Steinberg, and Johnny Quirk, with Larry Laliberte again Interlocutor. Soloists this year will be Charlie Dean, Helen Root, "Wally" Brown, William Bellows, "Phil" Fleury, Bill Landry, and Evelyn Robichaud. Beside the minstrel proper several short skits will be presented, among them one act composed of the talented children of the employees. Another will have as its theme the tenth anniversary which the company is celebrating this year.

The proceeds of last year's play were used to send Christmas baskets to our needy co-workers. The cast voted to do this again this year, after deducting a designated amount which will be given to the Finnish and Polish Relief Fund.

We know everyone wants to do his share toward this worthy cause. Unfortunately we all haven't talent but we can do our part by attending. Let's all get together and make the Sprague Minstrel a success.

BEAVER STREET BREVITIES

George Hamer of our machine shop is the proud grandfather of George David Hamer. The baby weighed 6 lbs. 13 ounces at birth and in eleven weeks has climbed to 13½ lbs., and has thick black hair.

The baby has the unique distinction of possessing three living great-grandmothers and one great-grandfather. He is the fourth Hamer to be called George. * * *

Fred McNamara, our purchasing agent, spent six months in the Navy, in service in Italy. * * *

A sad little story from Leon Podolsky, our traveling lecturer — seems he was a school boy chum of screen star Jean Arthur, ("Mr. Smith Goes To Washington," "Only Angels Have Wings," etc.), used to carry her books home from school, etc. When he got out to the West Coast one of his first acts was to whip down to Hollywood to pay a call. Five black cats ran across his path and the secretary informed him that that was the week Miss Arthur was back in New York City.

NEW TESTIMONIALS FOR SPRAGUE CONDENSERS

The old adage, the proof of the pudding is in the eating, applies to condensers. And Leon Podolsky, the Company's traveling lecturer, brings back authentic proof that our Sprague-made condensers are standing the gaff in the field.

One of the features of Podolsky's many talks to radio men and service engineers is a question period of the "information please" variety. One of the most frequent beginnings for a question is for the service man to tell of some difficult problem where a set failed and then go on to say, "it was another kind of condenser that went on the blink."

One of the biggest reasons for Sprague's success has been the fine performance records of sets on which Sprague condensers were original standard specifications.

Commenting on general conditions, Podolsky found the majority



Another photograph of ambitious Spraguers snapped ten years ago is this Can Shop group. **Standing, left to right:** Henry Anderson, Clarence Bishop, Frank Kyrpel, Roger Dean, John Fic, Carleton Perry, John Mattimore, Andrew Niles, Matt Nazzewski, Ralph Farmer, and Ralph Richards. **Sitting:** George Scarbo, Clifford King, James Scarbo, Rudy Drobiak and Archie Brown.



An amazing photograph, lent to the LOG by Mrs. C. Parrish. It shows the office floor before Sprague Specialties took over. Picture was taken from the present dispensary looking north and the double doors at middle right are the present location of Mr. Sprague's office.

THEN . . . AND NOW

Ten years is a long way back. The North Adams Transcript of October 3, 1929 announcing that Sprague would locate here told of other events, some almost forgotten now. Ramsay MacDonald, Prime Minister of England, was being greeted by President Hoover, who, in another column was losing his first fight for a flexible tariff policy. Great Britain and Russia had just concluded a friendly agreement. Colonel Lindbergh had arrived in Guatemala on his goodwill tour and the Russian monoplane, "Land of the Soviets," had landed in Alaska. Police and Communists were staging a riot in Ludlow. The big hit of the entertainment world was the all-talking, singing, dancing picture, "Gold Diggers of Broadway." Sound pictures were still a comparative novelty.

St. Louis street cars had given up strap-hangers because an official found that the "current styles in short skirts made it inadvisable for women to raise their arms above their heads."

The stock market was near its all-time peak. General Electric (now 37) was selling for 355. Atchison Railroad (now 23) was 267. Western Union (now 23) was 203, and New York, New Haven & Hartford, now about 50c a share, was 117. U. S. Steel (now 58) was 217.

Groceries were higher than they are today. Bacon at the A. & P. was 33c a pound, pork loins 29c, lamb chops 39c, Bokar coffee 47c, and oranges, large size 37c.

of radio jobbers and manufacturers had a good fall and look for good business in 1940, "but with our fingers crossed."

The question period shows the average radio service man is a close student of radio engineering and understands many of the technical problems facing the set-makers today. It is only the "screw-driver mechanics" who will never really grasp the fundamentals behind good set performance.

REPORTERS NOW GATHER NEWS FOR LOG

In the opinion of many employees, one of the most interesting things about the LOG has been its news of employee doings — their vacations, trips, recreations, hobbies and achievements. The LOG is glad to publish this news because as the plant paper of Sprague Specialties, it is the newspaper for all Sprague Specialties employees. This issue marks the inauguration of a new plan under which a number of employees have accepted invitations to serve as reporters for their particular departments. The greatly increased amount of interesting news about Sprague people is the very evident result of this new plan. In short, cooperation has been 100%.

The LOG urges you to "tip off" your departmental reporter on any doings, news or interesting facts about yourself or about others in the department that would make appropriate items for the columns of your magazine.

LOG REPORTERS

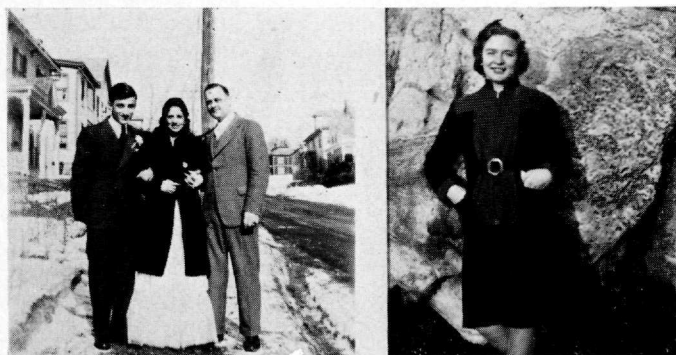
Sports
Block Assembly
Boxing
Boxing
Can Shop

Walter Carpenter
Carmella B. Voghel
Ida Marceau
Beatrice Pierce
Kenneth Russell

Dry Finishing
Dry Formation
Dry Rolling
Impregnating
K.V.A.
Machine Shop
Maintenance
Mica
Office
Ovens
Paper Annex
Paper Assembly
Paper Assembly
Paper Rolling
Paper Test
Pretuner
Sample
Retail Sales
Stock Room
Wet Assembly

Francis Guzzi
Sylvio Gamari
Harvey DeGrenier
Dorothy Bliss
Norman Bourdon
Edgar Remillard
Charles Dean
George Benoit
Pauline Morrissey
Anthony Januska
Louise Blanchard
Olive Blair
Peter Maruco
Rachel Godbout
Brendon Farley
Agnes McDonough
Mary Bartlett
Viola Gigliotti
Fritz Windover
Jack Sullivan

Photographer: Frederick Crosier
Editor: Etta Owen



Shown at the left is Mary Vigna Esposito and her husband Dominic on their wedding day. Rod MacAlpine is the other gentleman. At right is an informal shot of Mildred Drobiak.



Photographic proof that Francis Connors can catch fish. Turn them sideways for the camera man next time, Francis.

AFTER WORKING HOURS

Jimmie Knox and his wife recently motored to Albany to see "Gone With The Wind."

* * *

Thelma Barbuto and a friend recently gave a jitterbug exhibit at the Elks Home dance.

* * *

Joe Garenani has taken up skating this year. He can be seen almost any weekend at Hoosac Lake in Cheshire.

* * *

William Mendel did better than usual on his New Year's resolutions this year. He gave up smoking for two days.

* * *

"Be modern" is the slogan of the Boxing Dept. which explains why the new shade "Tangerine" was chosen when a new coat of paint was needed on the machines.

ENGAGEMENTS

Clara Lesage, of the office force and Frederick Miller, not employed here, have announced their engagement and plan to be married shortly after the Lenten season.

Mae Roy (Boxing Dept.) and Jerome Szetela of Adams have announced their engagement and expect to be married in the near future.

WEDDINGS

On February 3, Dominic Esposito, stock clerk in the Paper Assembly, and Mary Vigna were married in St. Anthony's Church. Mary now works in the Wall Streeter Company's factory, but is a Sprague Specialties Company Alumnus.

Ruth O'Brien, secretary to Mr. Kalker, became the bride of John Locke at a ceremony at St. Patrick's Church in Williamstown on February 3. Mr. Locke is divisional manager of Sears Roebuck & Company of North Adams.

Aline Lamoureux of the Paper Assembly was married on February 3 to Russell Giroux. The wedding took place in the Notre Dame Church of North Adams. Homer Giroux of the Machine Shop was attendant for his brother.

BIRTHS

A son was born on February 28 to Mr. and Mrs. James Dilego. The mother is Eva of the Main Office.

A son was born on January 19 to Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rivers. The mother is Clara of the Boxing Department.

A daughter was born on February 4 to Mr. and Mrs. Windrow Boillat. Dad worked in the Impregnating Department and mother in the Paper Rolling.

Noel Bachand of the Maintenance Department became a Daddy on January 26. He is now the proud father of a bouncing baby boy.

A daughter, Valerie Ann, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Armstrong on February 4. The mother is the former Alice Brassard of Paper Assembly.

A daughter was born on February 8 to Mr. and Mrs. Dominick Scerbo. Dominick is employed in the Machine Shop.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Critelli on February 5. Mrs. Critelli is the former Esther Bua.

A daughter, Joan Anne, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lemoine on February 13. The mother is Ethel, formerly of the Paper Rolling.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Julius Lincoln on February 14. The mother is Christine, formerly of the Paper Assembly.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Lewitt on February 15.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Bachand, Loretta Champagne, and John Smith recently motored to Chicago, Niagara Falls and Detroit. While in Detroit they visited the Ford Plant.

* * *

Tom Dufraine took in the hockey game between the Olympics and Montreal when they played in Boston.

* * *

Things we like: Music thru the speakers, pay day, weekend, the way Tom Dufraine is smashing the pins in this last round.

(Continued on page 7)



Our Basketball Team in mufti. Front row, left to right: Harold Kline, John Kopec, Toot Bergeron, Francis Millis. Back row, left to right: George Benoit, Jack Shields, and Jim Zabek.



A thrilling action shot snapped by our photographer Frederick Crosier during the Sprague-Kostka game in the State Armory. Picture shows Jack Shields getting the jump over his opponent.

AFTER WORKING HOURS

(Continued from page 6)

John Smith spent a recent weekend at Greenland Bay, N. H., smelt fishing.

* * *

We think Mike, our cat, can tell time. He walks into the Can Shop every day for his mid-morning lunch. He is never in a hurry but always arrives on time. Wonder where he eats his other meals?

* * *

When the Local 249 and the Machine Shop bowling teams collide in the near future, the rivalry between Adams High and Drury will seem pretty mild. After the match the fellows are planning a gala celebration.

* * *

Freddy Mazur hasn't quite made up his mind whether to join with the Sprague Basketball team or not. With that iron-man durability and that Adams spirit his presence would be of great help to the team.

* * *

The girls in the Paper Assembly Annex Dept., held a birthday party, February 9, for Dora Uyrus at Irene Rowley's home.

* * *

Cliff Vallieres has an auto radio for sale. Be wary folks! You have to take the car free.

* * *

Have you ever heard Fred King sing "Blue Hawaii"? A little encouragement is required to get him in that mood.

* * *

Tony Szetela didn't send his heart throb a valentine this year. He says his letters to her are as flowery as valentines and some are even better.

* * *

You never can tell what a jitterbug will do next. Emmanuel Landry tried to jitterbug on a diving board at the Y.M.C.A. recently. He's been sitting on half a chair ever since.

* * *

Charles Sutliff and Bob Manns anticipate a 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % profit in their chicken business. If and when they get the time and place to raise them.

* * *

Bill Major, dashing young husband of Daisy (Dry Rolling), was entered in the Silver Skates Trophy race in Boston recently. Bill made good by finishing fifth in the two-mile race, married men's division. Bring the trophy home next time, Bill.

* * *

Bill Brundige, Howard Sherman, and Harold Dufresne, those three sturdy rugged followers of boxing bouts, were seen headed for the ringside in Bennington recently.

* * *

Lee Marshall of Chemical Control has a novel way for earning money for his future college education. He's willing to take out anyone's girl friend for the evening. Of course, there's a slight bit of compensation involved from the boy friend. So far he's had no takers.

(Continued on page 8)

SPRAGUE BASKETBALL NEWS

By Walt Carpenter

The Sprague boys have entered the "Dusty Loop" and so far have tasted little of defeat.

The team is composed of:

"Toots" Bergeron, former Hillside and Company K basketball star.

"Rolly" Lefave also a scoring ace of Company K and for Drury High's teams.

"Gook" Benoit active not only in Sprague's, but also in Company K this year.

"Jimmy" Zabek is a member of St. Stanislaus five who have an enviable record.

"Chuck" Kline active only in Sprague's this year.

"Zig" Nazzewski also a member of Drury basketball and football teams.

"Stan" Sanecki was co-captain and co-star of crack Adams High team 1938-39 — Western Massachusetts Champions.

"Pete" LePage is a former Drury player and active in Sprague's this year.

"Flash" Millis also played for St. Joseph's High before playing with Sprague outfit.

John "Legs" Shields was star center for St. Joseph's High of this city.

"Johnny" Kopec also an active member of the "crack" St. Stanislaus outfit besides playing for Sprague's.

The third game, Sprague vs Gas Company, was a game where every man on the Sprague team contributed one basket or more to their teams' victory. The high scoring ace for the Sprague outfit was "Rolly" Lefave, with 7 baskets and 2 free trys, followed by "Toots" Bergeron with 4 baskets and 1 free try.

"Randy" Trabold had a good night for the Gas Company tossing 8 baskets and 1 free try for a total of 17 points.

The final score being 55 to 35.

Keep going boys, we are all behind you. Come on all you Sprague Fans and be at the "Y" on Saturday nights and help put your team over the top.

SHOOTING RANGE FOR RIFLE TEAM

Members of the Rifle Team are now hard at work preparing a Sprague Shooting Range with back stops and lights in the old office building across the street. Space there has been allotted to them by the management to encourage practice and marksmanship long handicapped by the lack of range facilities in North Adams. The Sprague rifle men will now have every opportunity to perfect their coordination and scores.

In a recent match with Arnold Print Works the Sprague eight man team conquered by a score of 1259 to 1252. John Camadine was high man for the match with 181. The other Sprague individual scores follow:

Alex Durant.....	175	"Zig" Nazzewski.....	151
Frank Chilson.....	165	James Orr.....	141
Wendell Smith.....	162	Matt Nazzewski.....	133
Frank Gassett.....	161		

AFTER WORKING HOURS

(Continued from page 7)

To Eddie Goodman — was it the fifth or sixth pair of skis you broke recently?

* * *

Albert Hamer of the Machine Shop and Larry Underwood of the Stock Room were among the many from North Adams who attended the Sportsmen's Show in Boston.

* * *

Rose Rogge of the Dry Rolling Department has the best wishes of everyone in her new work. She recently entered the Training School of St. Luke's Hospital in Pittsfield for a three years course in nursing.

* * *

Ernie Purpura and Peter Mancuso have enrolled for the course of training in Boy Scout Leadership that is being given at the local Y. M. C. A.

* * *

Ray Fawcett of the Can Shop is Scoutmaster of the Williamstown Boy Scouts and Jimmie Fitzgerald is Assistant Scoutmaster. Charlie McCann and Louis DeMayo are also active in the Boy Scouts activities of Williamstown, both being on troop committees.

* * *

Joseph Fitzgerald was recently elected treasurer of the North Adams Pigeon Club.

* * *

Leland Marshall of the Chemical Control Department belongs to the Yoeman Archery Club. This club meets weekly at the Y. M. C. A. for target shooting.

Wanted

If anyone has a book of football terms, will he kindly loan it to the girl in the office who went to see the "Hunchback of Notre Dame" because she thought it was a football picture?

BOWLING NEWS FROM THE LEAGUE

By Walt Carpenter

The bowling averages showed that in the first half of men's league, there were 114 bowlers on the fourteen teams and that 69 had averages of better than 90.

The second half of the league has reached the 5th week and every team is battling for top places; at present Sprague Products and Trimmers are tied for first place.

The Local 249 and the Riveters were the only two teams of the first half to show every man with an average of 90 or better.

The girls' league has finished the third round of their schedule and Paper Rolling is in possession of first place.

The new high single is held by Toots Gibeau for the girls, when she mowed the maple down to the tune of 109.

Also hats off to Esther Mazza who has bowled 297 for high three strings and Toots Gibeau who nosed her out with a score of 298, but both of the above were nosed out by Emma Marino who bowled the grand score of 299 . . . Great work, girls. Keep the good work up.

"STEPPER OUTERS"

Weekly attendants at the Saturday night dances at the Elk's Home are John Puppolo, Joe O'Brien, Harvey "Specks" DeGrenier, Junie Livermore, Jack Fleury, and their wives.

* * *

Among those attending the recent Alert's Ball in Adams were Bill Mendel and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Abuisi, "Mike" and "Bee" Pierce, Ida Marceau and Harry Lovett, Mamie Farinon and friend, Mr. and Mrs. Bongiolatti, Danny and Jimmie Shea.

* * *

The Testers and the Dry Finish Dept. have been staging a series of "reciprocal dinner parties" these past few weeks.

The first affair was held at the home of Miss Laura LeFebvre in Adams. Those present were Wallace Fortin (Laura's friend who does not work here), Mr. and Mrs. John Pierce, Mr. and Mrs. John Bryce, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey DeGrenier. After the dinner party they attended a dance at the Moose Hall in Adams where they enjoyed dancing and refreshments.

The next party was held at the home of Mrs. John Bryce (the former Helen Bunting), where a delicious meal was prepared and served by the hostess. After the dinner, card games were enjoyed.

The next party will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Pierce and the following week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey DeGrenier.

ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S "GUESS WHO"

Emma Montagna of the Boxing Department — *standing*.
Theresa Montagna of the Paper Rolling — *sitting*.



Yes, a big customer of one of our largest local suppliers, the Northern Berkshire Gas Company used to be the outfit that took these old-fashioned balloons on experimental flights from the Gas Company's grounds.

SPRAGUE BOWLERS ENJOY MIXED DOUBLES TOURNAMENT

By Walt Carpenter

A recent agreeable sports event took place at the Olympian Bowling Alleys, when the young ladies and young men of Sprague's held a mixed doubles bowling match.

The girls names were drawn out of the hat and were paired off with a man bowler and at 10.30 the matches were under way.

There were twenty-five young ladies and twenty-five young men entered in the roll-off, which was a success from start to finish.

The girls were gaily attired in various colored skirts and sweaters and the fellows with their white shirts and different colored trousers made it a very colorful affair.

The first prize was won by Toots Gibeau and David McLelland with a score of 595.

The second prize was won by Emma Marino and Mike Pierce who rolled a score of 589.

Third prize was won by Gertrude Gentile and Stanley Ziaja with a score of 574.

High single string prize was won by Mrs. Harvey DeGrenier for the girls with a score of 109.

High single string prize was won by Walter Lavarier for the men with 121.

High three string prize was won by Dorothy Boutwell for the girls with a score of 278.

High three string prize was won by George Roy for the men with a score of 302.

Additional blind prizes were won by the following:

For the girls — Rita Siciliano, Helen Searle, Esther Mazza and Mary Rogge.

For the men — John Waska, William Pierce, Earl Scarbo, John Shields, Teddy Blair, Jack Callahan and Joseph Messina.

According to all who participated, another match would be welcome in the near future as everyone seemed to have a great deal of fun.

DO YOU REMEMBER . . .

When we had to run across the road to Buckley's for a chocolate bar?

Washing pans with a hose, in the middle of the Boxing Dept., in a wooden sink?

When salesmen were always late getting to "Mac" because of the blonde that used to be at the switchboard?

When the Anode crew was winding 16-inch tooth paste tubes into short corrugated one-piece anodes?

When Frank Gassett adjusted the level on the Wets by "milking" them with a rubber bulb?